



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 017227/0159

In re patent application of
Suzanne CORY *et al.*

Serial No. 09/508,832

Group Art Unit: 1642

FEB 28 2003

Filed: July 10, 2000

Examiner: M. Yu

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

For: NOVEL THERAPEUTIC MOLECULES

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Copy 6b
Pwpln #19

In reply to the Official Action dated August 23, 2002, applicants request that the application be amended and reconsidered in light of the remarks that follow:

In the specification

A marked-up version showing the following changes is appended.

Please replace the last paragraph on page 20 with the following amended paragraph:

The term "similarity" as used herein includes exact identity between compared sequences at the nucleotide or amino acid level. Where there is non-identity at the nucleotide level, "similarity" includes differences between sequences which result in different amino acids that are nevertheless related to each other at the structural, functional, biochemical and/or conformational levels. Where there is non-identity at the amino acid level, "similarity" includes amino acids that are nevertheless related to each other at the structural, functional, biochemical and/or conformational levels. In a particular preferred embodiment, nucleotide and sequence comparisons are made at the level of identity rather than similarity. Any number of programs are available to compare nucleotide and amino acid sequences. Preferred programs have regard to an appropriate alignment. One such